

The SWORD of the LORD

Edited by JOHN R. RICE.

"And they cried, The Sword of the Lord, and of Gideon." Judges 7:20

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THE RICH YOUNG RULER

1. He Sought the Right Person.
2. He Came in the Right Spirit.
3. He Asked the Right Question.
4. He Received the Right Answer.
5. But He Did the Wrong Thing!

By Evangelist Hyman J. Appelman

(Preached over WJJD, Chicago, March 19, 1945. Mechanically Recorded for THE SWORD OF THE LORD.)

I am reading some verses of Scripture from the tenth chapter of Mark, beginning with the seventeenth verse. All of you will remember the story as soon as I start reading it.

"And when he was gone forth into the way, there came one running, and kneeled to him, and asked him, Good Master, what shall I do that I may inherit eternal life, And Jesus said unto him, Why callest thou me good, there is none good but one, that is, God. Thou knowest the commandments, Do not commit adultery, Do not kill, Do not steal, Do not bear false witness, Defraud not, Honour thy father and mother. And he answered and said unto him, Master,



Dr. Hyman J. Appelman

all these things have I observed from my youth. Then Jesus beholding him loved him, and said unto him, One thing thou lackest: go thy way, sell whatever thou hast, and give to the poor, and thou shalt have treasure in heaven; and come, take up the cross and follow me. And he was sad at that saying and went away grieved: for he had great possessions" (Mark 10:17-22).

I remember a long time ago when I first began to preach the gospel, I heard a minister in Oklahoma say that the thing this young man lacked was that he had too much money. He was rich. That just did not sound

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By the Editor

It is the burden of my heart continually to get The Sword of the Lord into more homes and to fill it with the best Spirit-anointed material, sermons and articles, that it is possible to obtain. If you could only read the mail that comes daily to The Sword of the Lord office, you would be convinced that this paper, under the blessing of God, actually brings revival in the hearts of thousands, stirs whole communities, wins hundreds of precious souls. And we are convinced that it needs only to be increased in circulation to increase the revival blessing and soul-winning power which God has manifested through it in the past. With that in mind, we again make a fine premium offer. We will send absolutely free and post-paid my new book on The Coming Kingdom Of Christ for only two subscriptions at \$1.50 a year.

The regular subscription price of The Sword of the Lord, this eight-page weekly, since May 1, is \$1.50 per year. That is less than a copy. Send us two full one-year subscriptions, enclosing \$3.00; and we will send free this newly printed, beautiful book on Bible prophecy, The Coming Kingdom

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WHIPPING CHILDREN

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- III. Mrs. Susannah Wesley's Godly Way of Rearing Children
- IV. How Whipping Children Keeps Them Out of Hell!
- V. Objections Answered

By Evangelist John R. Rice

Last week the article **Correction and Discipline of Children** showed that children have a fallen, sinful nature and hence need the control and restraint, discipline and punishment required to develop good character. It showed that parents must act for God in the punishment of children and that God holds parents strictly to account in this duty. That article gave many Scriptures. Here we continue the Bible teaching on the subject of whipping children.

Parents Should Begin Early, Continue Discipline Faithfully

How soon should the baby have his first spanking? A preacher friend of mine said, "I do not think you ought to whip a girl baby as early as a boy baby. I don't think anybody ought to whip a girl baby younger than three weeks old, but you might begin on a boy baby the day he is born!" That is an obvious exaggeration. Certainly no good could be accomplished by punishing a child before he knew what was wanted, and the tiny baby needs no further spank, we suppose, than that administered by the doctor to make him cry and start him off breathing properly. But people are far more likely to do wrong by beginning too late about the discipline of children.

Proverbs 19:18 says, "Chasten thy son while there is hope, and let not thy soul spare for his crying." Every parent should begin careful, strict control of his children with love and prayer and good example and teaching, and correction when necessary, "while there is hope." It will be too late some day to try to curb and control that proud and stubborn spirit of self-will which every child has by nature. Begin early!

As soon as the child can well understand the orders given by his mother or father, he should be expected to obey. Before the child is a year old, he certainly ought to stop crying when spoken to, ought to lie still at sleep time, if well, ought to give up quietly things with which he might hurt himself or that he might damage. The child who walks certainly

ought to come to his father or mother when told to come. It is far easier on both the child and on his parents if the child is clearly taught that mother and father must be obeyed. I remember with what surprise I learned that a couple of spanks can often settle a baby's mind about the dreaded nap, after he has kept the whole household in an uproar for a half hour.

"Chasten thy son while there is hope, and let not thy soul spare for his crying," says the Word of God. A consistent policy should be carried out by the mother and father, when discipline is begun early, when father and mother wisely and kindly follow out a simple, godly policy of maintaining obedience regularly, though justice be tempered with mercy and love.

"And let not thy soul spare for his crying," is the command to the father or mother who is to "chasten thy son while there is hope" (Prov. 19:18). Punishment will not often be necessary, perhaps, if obedience becomes the well-understood requirement, with no deviation. But when punishment must be given, it ought to

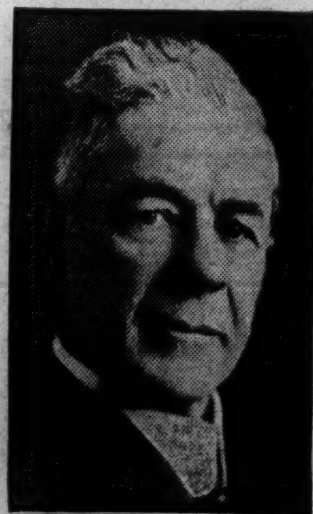
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The Bible Proves Its Own Origin

By Edward A. Marshall, Ph.D.; D.D.

It is said that "a man is known by the company he keeps," so a book may be known by the converts it makes. The devotees of Shakespeare's writings are found in the theatre; the followers of the teaching of Karl Marx are found among communists, also among socialists and bolsheviks; the believers in the Sacred Writings of the East are found in the heathen temples while the adherents of the Bible are found in churches. Which has come nearest to producing a safe civilization? Which environment would you prefer for yourself and your children, to believe in, to live in, to die in?

Wherein lies the difference? They are printed on similar presses with type and ink. They all use human alphabets and words. There is no magic in their mechanical production. Why do the teachings of one produce repentance and a



Dr. Edward A. Marshall

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WHIPPING CHILDREN

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be given thoroughly. Many parents whip a child only enough to anger him and arouse resentment. I have seen a mother spank a little boy or girl and then take a half hour of petting, trying to win back the favor of the angry child. Surely that is wrong and contrary to this command of the Bible. If whipping must be done, then do it thoroughly, enough to get results; and it will save much trouble and heartache for both parent and child later on. When the child's will is surrendered, when there is an honest penitence for sin and the offender is willing to make right his wrong in loving obedience, there is no reason to continue the punishment. But until this attitude of submission is reached, "Let not thy soul spare for his crying." My father seemed to have a rule to whip until we cried and then whip until we stopped! And if it was my Dad whipping, one would certainly find a way to stop crying, though one felt he would burst. My dear father did not whip often. I only remember twice, I think, that he whipped me. By the time I was nearly four, which is as far back as I can well remember, it was already established in my heart that "Papa" was to be obeyed instantly. And I cannot remember when I was not tremendously grieved if I thought I had grieved him. Nor can I ever remember the slightest resentment toward him for the authority which he carried so simply and so grandly! And when my father did whip, as was so rarely necessary, he did a thorough job that would always be remembered!

How long should a parent maintain strict discipline over his children? Part of that answer is certainly found in Deuteronomy 21:18-21 where even a grown son, if rebellious and disobedient, a glutton and drunkard, is to be brought by his own father and mother to the elders of the city to be publicly condemned and stoned. Part of the answer surely is found in the fact that Eli, the high priest, suffered an eternal curse on his household because he did not restrain his own grown sons! Certainly as long as a father and mother support their children, that long the children ought to be under the full authority of their parents. Any son or daughter who is young enough to eat at the father's table and to be provided for by the father's bounty, is young enough to be whipped if necessary. Frankly, it would be very rare that a child properly reared would need a whipping after he was grown. But the authority of father and mother should be unquestioned, and whatever it takes to maintain that authority should be done. In my father's home when I was twenty years old I would not have thought of disobeying my father, nor of speaking discourteously to him. And if I had done so, it would have been no surprise to

me had my father promptly slapped me down, husky horseman and football tackle that I was! And the habit of obedience was so strong in me that I think it would not even have occurred to me to resist my father or even to run from him had he decided to chastise me when I was grown!

The other day a gracious southern lady, a most devoted Christian, told me with deep emotion of the last time her mother whipped her. She was about to be married and the mother was fitting the wedding dress on her daughter. The young bride-to-be was impatient and quarrelsome until the mother promptly removed the wedding gown and soundly whipped her daughter a few days before the daughter's wedding! Telling me about it, this southern gentlewoman told me with a catch in her voice over pride in her beloved mother, along with giggles over the ludicrous situation, how her mother said, "You may be old enough to get married, but you are not old enough to sass your mother; and you are not too old to be whipped if you need it!" That godly mother of a departed generation won for herself a reverence and pride that will never die in the heart of her daughter, because she exercised a mother's authority in righteousness, and whipped the daughter on the eve of her wedding!

In Cleveland, Ohio, I preached on "The Christian Home," and a man came to tell me of his blessed father now in Heaven. "I remember so well the last time he whipped me," said this Christian man of his father. "He whipped me with a buggy whip, and whipped me terribly hard. And then when it was done he threw down the whip and put both arms around me and cried and told me how he loved me." My Cleveland friend wept as he remembered it, and thanked God for the father who made him mind and whipped him when he needed it, even though he was a grown young man.

The Child Reared In Godly Discipline: "When He Is Old, He Will Not Depart From It"

Can we so rear our children as to guarantee that they will live godly lives? That is exactly what the Bible teaches! Proverbs 22:6 says, "Train up a child in the way he should go; and when he is old, he will not depart from it." The Revised Version is a little clearer, I think, and says, "Even when he is old he will not depart from it." Even when a child is grown, away from home, away from the restraints of father and mother, he will never depart from the training he had as a child, if he were really reared in the way he should go, says the Scripture.

I well know that there is more to good parenthood than whipping children. There ought to be godly example day by day. Children ought to be taught to work. There ought to be much Bible teaching. There ought to be much prayer. Children ought to be won to Christ at an early age. But certainly the very backbone of child-rearing is discipline, being taught to obey, taught to do right, ruled lovingly in the ways of righteousness by father and mother. Fathers are to bring children up "in the nurture (or chastening) and admonition of the Lord," as Ephesians 6:4 says. And if they follow the Bible plan, the character of children will be so set for God and righteousness and morality and subjection to authority that when they are grown, independent men and women they will never leave

the godly ways taught them by their parents.

I had the Scripture seriously challenged one day. I was a young preacher attending the seminary and preaching on Sunday to a country church. When I preached on the Christian home and used this Scripture in Proverbs 22:6 as a text, a prominent man in the church, deeply distressed, asked me to go to his home with him. There he told me, "Pastor, what you preached this morning is not so. You said if we should bring up a child in the way he should go he would never depart from it. I know that is not true. I know I did bring up my boy right."

"But," I said, "that is not my statement. That is a statement from the Word of God. Here it is in the Scripture, 'Train up a child in the way he should go; and when he is old, he will not depart from it.' You are challenging the Word of God."

"Then, if the Bible says that, the Bible is wrong," he replied, "I know I did bring up my boy right. I am not to blame that he went wrong."

I told him that no man had a right to maintain membership in a church of Jesus Christ and deny one verse in the Bible. And since he had made an issue of the matter and declared that the Bible teaching of Proverbs 22:6 was untrue I demanded to know where his boy was. At first he refused to tell me, out of embarrassment and shame. But when I insisted, he said that the boy was in the Texas State Penitentiary at Huntsville, Texas. "But I know I raised my boy right," he said. "I am not to blame that my boy has gone wrong."

Since he had made God's Word out to be a lie, I determined to go to the heart of the matter, and I said, "You say you raised your boy right. Then tell me this, did you whip your boy and make him mind? Did you make him get up the first time he was called? Did you require that he say, 'Yes, Sir!' and, 'Yes, Ma'm!' to you and his mother? Did you whip the boy and make him obey?"

He replied, "You are young and you think such a rule will fit everybody. My boy was high-strung and nervous. One could not bear down on him sharply and demand strict obedience like one can with some children. He wouldn't take it. He was too nervous!"

(Incidentally, I remember that I was very nervous and high-strung as a boy, too. But my father solved that difficulty very easily. He just got more nervous than I did!)

"So you did not make your boy mind. You did not believe the Scripture that says, 'The rod and reproof give wisdom; but a child left to himself bringeth his mother to shame.' You did not believe the Scripture that says, 'Correct thy son, and he shall give thee rest; yea, he shall give delight unto thy soul' (Prov. 29:15,17). And your boy is in the penitentiary and you blame God! Tell me another thing. Did you have a family altar at your house? Deuteronomy 6:6-9 commands the father to teach the words of the Bible diligently to his children, to talk of them when he rises up and sits down, and to have them on the walls of his house. Did you have family worship? Did you have prayer and Bible reading in your home every day? Did your boy learn the Bible in the home and learn to pray?"

He replied, "You city people may have time for that, but we farmers have to get up early and work long hours. We didn't have time for any foolishness." The boy who didn't have time for fifteen minutes or thirty minutes daily of family worship, had plenty of time to spend several years in the penitentiary! (And this man certainly misjudged me if he thought I was from the city!)

"So you didn't make your boy obey you, you never chastised him,

you never taught him the Scriptures, you never had family worship. Let me ask one more question," I said. "Did you ever take the Bible and tell your boy that you wanted to show him how to be saved? Did you ever try to lead your boy to trust in Jesus as his Saviour and give his heart and life to God? Did you ever try to get your boy saved while he was at home with you?" I asked.

"I will have you to know that I am a Baptist," he said, "And we don't believe in dragging little children into the church before they know what it is all about."

It is a pity that he was such a good Baptist that he never talked to his child about being saved.

This father did not believe the Bible was true. He denied the truth of the Scripture, "Train up a child in the way he should go; and when he is old, he will not depart from it." Yet he himself had never whipped his son, never demanded and never gotten obedience. He had never taught the child the Word of God. He had never had a family altar with Bible reading and prayer in the home. He had never tried to show the lad that he was a sinner and needed a Saviour, never tried to bring him to trust in Jesus and know him as his own Saviour in the forgiveness of sins. And now that the boy was in a state penitentiary for his crimes against society, the father insisted that he had reared the boy aright! But you and I know that the father was to blame. You and I know that by any Bible standard he had not reared his child for God, had not brought him up "in the nurture and admonition of the Lord."

Sometime ago a mother asked me to pray for her grown, married son. "He is a drunkard, a blasphemer, and living in terrible sin," said the mother, "but I know he was reared right and I believe he will come back to it when he is older," she said. But that is a misapplication of Proverbs 22:6. The Bible never promises that a child who goes off in outrageous sin will come back to the way of his godly parents. The Bible plainly teaches that such a child, brought up as he ought to be in the fear of God and according to the Bible pattern, will never depart from that general course of an upright, moral, godly life.

Of course, the children who are led to Christ in the home, children who are taught the Scriptures, children who are disciplined carefully and nurtured under the authority of a godly father and mother will make mistakes and will not be perfect. But the course of their lives will follow that which they learned at home. If the father and mother use the means at hand, follow the Bible plans of discipline and teaching and example and prayer, then the mother and father can safely lean on the promise of God's Word that the child will never forget his rearing and never leave that upright course he was taught in the home! And what a blessed, blessed promise is that on which every parent can lean. Here is a Scripture that can guarantee the happy, moral, upright future of our children if we believe it and act upon it in time.

Mrs. Susannah Wesley's Godly Way of Rearing Children

How were John Wesley and Charles Wesley, leaders in the great evangelical movement in England, founders of Methodism, reared? By what manner were such godly men, so well controlled, so wholly given to the Lord, so brilliant in mind, so tender in conscience, so unswerving in principle, developed? Their mother, Susannah Wesley, taught them to fear the rod when they were a year old! So she herself says, and John Wesley himself published her statement. The holy lives of these saintly men, John and Charles Wesley, grew out of the

godly discipline of the home. That the Wesleys themselves believed, and the Scriptures bear them out. Susannah Wesley believed the Scripture that "The rod and reproof give wisdom; but a child left to himself bringeth his mother to shame" (Prov. 29:15). She believed the Scripture that "The blueness of a wound cleanseth away evil: so do stripes the inward parts of the belly" (Prov. 20:30).

She believed the teaching of the Scriptures that one who is not chastised is treated as a bastard not as a legitimate son (Heb. 12:7,8).

In *The Heart of John Wesley's Journal* is published a letter from Mrs. Wesley to her son, part of which we give here:

July 24, 1732

"Dear Son,—According to your desire, I have collected the principal rules I observed in educating my family; which I now send you as they occurred to my mind, and you may (if you think they can be of use to any) dispose of them in what order you please.

* * *

"When turned a year old (and some before), they were taught to fear the rod, and to cry softly; by which means they escaped abundance of correction they might otherwise have had; and that most odious noise of the crying of children was rarely heard in the house; but the family usually lived in as much quietness as if there had not been a child among them.

* * *

"Conquer the Child's Will"

"In order to form the minds of children, the first thing to be done is to conquer their will, and bring them to an obedient temper. To inform the understanding is a work of time, and must with children proceed by slow degrees as they are able to bear it: but the subjecting the will is a thing which must be done at once; and the sooner the better. For by neglecting timely correction, they will contract a stubbornness and obstinacy which is hardly ever after conquered; and never, without using such severity as would be as painful to me as to the child. In the esteem of the world they pass for kind and indulgent, whom I call cruel, parents, who permit their children to get habits which they know must be afterwards broken. Nay, some are so stupidly fond, as in sport to teach their children to do things which, in a while after, they have severely beaten them for doing.

"Whenever a child is corrected, it must be conquered; and this will be no hard matter to do, if it be not grown headstrong by too much indulgence. And when the will of a child is totally subdued, and it is brought to revere and stand in awe of the parents, then a great many childish follies and inadvertences may be passed by. Some should be overlooked and taken no notice of, and others mildly reproofed; but no wilful transgression ought ever to be forgiven children, without chastisement, less or more, as the nature and circumstances of the offence require.

"I insist upon conquering the will of children betimes, because this is the only strong and rational foundation of a religious education; without which both precept and example will be ineffectual. But when this is thoroughly done, then a child is capable of being governed by the reason and piety of its parents, till its own understanding comes to maturity, and the principles of religion have taken root in the mind.

"I cannot yet dismiss this subject. As self-will is the root of all sin and misery, so whatever cherishes this in children insures their after-wretchedness and irreligion; whatever checks and mortifies it promotes their future happiness and piety. This is still more evident, if we farther consider, that religion is nothing else than the doing the will of God,

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and not our own: that the one grand impediment to our temporal and eternal happiness being this self-will, no indulgences of it can be trivial, no denial unprofitable. Heaven or hell depends on this alone. So that the parent who studies to subdue it in his child, works together with God in the renewing and saving a soul. The parent who indulges it does the devil's work, makes religion impracticable, salvation unattainable; and does all that in him lies to damn his child, soul and body for ever.

They had "Nothing they Cried For"

"The children of this family were taught, as soon as they could speak, the Lord's prayer, which they were made to say at rising and bed-time constantly; to which, as they grew bigger, were added a short prayer for their parents, and some collects; a short catechism, and some portion of Scripture, as their memories could bear.

"They were very early made to distinguish the Sabbath from other days; before they could well speak or go. They were as soon taught to be still at family prayers, and to ask a blessing immediately after, which they used to do by signs, before they could kneel or speak.

"They were quickly made to understand they might have nothing they cried for, and instructed to speak handsomely for what they wanted. They were not suffered to ask even the lowest servant for aught without saying, 'Pray give me such a thing'; and the servant was chid, if she ever let them omit that word."

Thus Susannah Wesley, saint of God, reared those great men whose influence kept millions out of Hell. Surely she proved well enough the truth of the Scripture that though "A child left to himself bringeth his mother to shame," the converse is also true, "The rod and reproof give wisdom," and "Correct thy son, and he shall give thee rest; yea, ye shall give delight unto thy soul."

How Whipping Children Keeps Them Out of Hell!

There is a strange, strange statement in Proverbs 23:13,14. "Withhold not correction from the child: for if thou beatest him with the rod, he shall not die. Thou shalt beat him with the rod, and shalt deliver his soul from hell."

"If you beat your child with a rod, he shall not die," says the Scripture. And the Scripture not only means that whipping does not kill a child, does not harm him; it also means that whipping is likely to save his life. The child who is properly disciplined is much more likely to live a long and useful life. He is not so likely to die of violence, since he will live an upright, godly life, will not keep company with brawlers. He is not so likely to die of punishment for his crimes at the hands of the state. He is not so likely to die of disease, brought on by sin. So the Scripture encourages parents with these words, "Withhold not correction from the child: for if thou beatest him with the rod, he shall not die. Thou shalt beat him with the rod, and shalt deliver his soul from hell."

The word for Hell here is the Hebrew word *Sheol* which generally means the place of departed spirits. But the usage in the Old Testament tends continually toward regarding *Sheol* as the place of torment of the unconverted. The New Testament word *Hades* in the Greek, is equivalent to the Hebrew word *Sheol*, and when Jesus told about the rich man who "died, and was buried; And in hell he lift up his eyes, being in torments," He used the word *Hades*. So, although the Scripture says that good whipping at the proper time will keep a boy from a premature death, the Scripture also means what it says in the English, "Thou shalt beat him with the rod, and shalt deliver his soul from hell."

One of the saddest things I have learned in preaching in city missions, in jails, and in street services all over America is that often a criminal behind the bars, or a poor drunken bum on the street will say to me, "Sure, sure, I know all about that. I have read that Scripture many times. My father was a Methodist preacher," or "my father was a Baptist deacon." Many men have turned out to be criminals, many are outrageous sinners, who grew up in the home of devout Christians. Beyond any shadow of doubt, for a father and mother to be good Christians in the home is not enough. Good examples alone do not guarantee that the children will turn out moral and upright and religious. Even the reading of the Bible and prayer in the home are not enough to guarantee that the children will become good Christians. There must also be a discipline, the reproof of sin and its punishment. Fathers are to bring their children up "in the nurture and admonition of the Lord," that is, in the chastening and teaching of the Lord.

To a mother who begged Dr. Bob Jones, Sr., to pray for her son, Dr. Jones said, "My praying won't take the place of your whipping." Children who are not taught to respect authority in the home will not respect it abroad. Children who rebel against fathers and mothers and get by with it, will rebel against God. The child who is not made to heed his parents, may never heed the call of the Spirit of God to be converted. Chastisement, done earnestly and with justice, yet tempered with mercy; chastisement done in the name of Jesus does two things for a child permanently. First, the child learns that sin does not pay. He comes to realize the fact so often expressed in the Bible that "Be sure your sins will find you out" (Num. 32:23); that "Whatsoever a man soweth, that shall he also reap" (Gal. 6:7); that "The wages of sin is death" (Rom. 6:23). Any child properly reared, punished for his sins, rewarded for his obedience, compelled to defer to the divine authority as it has been entrusted to the hands of his father and mother—any child so reared, I say, will have a continual subconscious realization that sin is certain to come to judgment. And that conviction is the background of all true repentance. Such a child is the most fruitful kind of a gospel subject.

Second, the child properly punished for his sins grows a conscience that is hurt and grieved

when he does wrong. Not only does the child properly reared feel instinctively that sin must come to judgment, but he comes to take the side of right in his own conscience and holds himself accountable for his sins. The child who is compelled to do right and is punished for sin, along with the proper teaching and the proper example, will want to do right.

Such children who have come to recognize the importance of right and wrong, who have come to have a conscience constantly alive and dealing with them about every action, are predisposed to hear the gospel. It is much easier to get them to have a sense of conviction for their sins and to have a sense of need for God and a desire to be saved. The easiest people in the world to win to Christ are those who have already a deep conscience on the question of right and wrong, those who have a reverence for God, a sense of responsibility to Him, and a fear of the results of sin.

In a town where I was pastor there lived an unsaved man and wife, with a large family of children. The man did not attend church, and I could not win him to Christ. But it happened that he was specially strict in rearing his children. He never allowed them out in bad company. They must be home by a certain time each night. Even the boy twenty years old was held strictly to account, could only keep company with an approved list of friends, and must be in his own home by a set time each night. And the father whipped his children soundly when necessary to enforce his strict discipline. They loved their father, of course; but they also feared him in a reverential way.

It was my privilege to talk to these young people in the home of the unsaved father and one by one I lead them to trust in Christ. I never found people with more tender hearts. I never found lost sinners more quick to confess their sins and with tears of penitence, to turn to Christ for mercy and salvation! Their father's example had not been good in the matter of serving God, but his strict rearing had made them fit subjects for the gospel. The seed fell on good soil, soil that had been properly plowed, when it fell into their hearts.

Children properly reared can be easily won to Christ. But children who are reared in rebellion, reared to "have their own way," reared with never a thought of punishment for their sins, are often calloused and rebellious and without any respect for God and His Word. They have no sense of shame for their sins, no fear of God, nor of coming judgment.

The Bible is true, then, when it says, "Withhold not correction from the child: for if thou beatest him with a rod, he shall not die. Thou shalt beat him with the rod, and shalt deliver his soul from hell," as the wisest man who ever lived was inspired of God to write in Proverbs 23:13,14. Any father and mother who do what they ought to do about discipline, will find it easy to do what they ought to do about winning their children to Christ. Good whippings, given in time, along with proper rearing otherwise, make it easy to win people to Christ and so keep their souls out of Hell.

Objections Answered

People have many objections to this Bible plan of whipping children to make them mind. We might safely take the Bible at face value and follow it implicitly, knowing that no objection will be valid against the Word of God. But a little consideration will show how foolish are the objections people offer against the Bible plan.

1. "Whipping is brutal, unfair." So some say. For a great big man to whip a little boy or girl means that he is simply taking advantage of his size to oppress little people, who cannot protect

themselves, say some not-very-intelligent people.

Is an armed policeman unfair when with a gun and handcuffs at hand he arrests a burglar? Is a teacher unfair who takes authority over children in the school, decides what the lesson will be, how much written work will be required, just because she is in authority, and does not give a child an equal chance to decide about the lesson and work he is to do? That is silly on the face of it. If whipping is unfair, then any kind of punishment by any authority in the world would be unfair. That silly objection strikes at all authority in home and school and state and business. The truth is, that God gives the father more strength and more wisdom along with his authority, just as the government gives the policeman a gun along with his badge. That strength and authority ought to be used to punish sin or prevent it.

It is true that a whipping inflicts pain. But does that make it wrong? So does filling or pulling a tooth by the dentist cause pain. So does a tonsil operation by a surgeon. The end in view justifies some pain. And the end in view in whipping children justifies some pain. By learning that fire burns, a child learns to keep out of the fire. By learning that sin brings punishment, children learn to keep from sin. In Hebrews 12:7 God says, "If ye endure chastening (whipping), God dealeth with you as with sons." Hebrews 12:11, in the same chapter, says, "Now no chastening for the present seemeth to be joyous, but grievous: nevertheless afterward it yieldeth the peaceable fruit of righteousness unto them which are exercised thereby." The results of whipping, done for righteousness sake, are peaceable and happy, not brutal.

2. "I believe in ruling by love, and not by force." Many a person has said that. And all of us know that parents should love their children, bosses should love their workers, rulers should love their citizens, teachers should love their pupils. God loves His own creatures and pours upon us blessings unnumbered every day. Yet, God's great love does not make it unnecessary for Him to punish sin. He still punishes His own children, "scourgeth every son whom he receiveth," says the Scripture.

"I love my boy too much to whip him," said a mother. But that was really a dishonest answer, as well as an untrue one. Proverbs 13:24 says, "He that spareth his rod hateth his son: but he that loveth him chasteneth him betimes." If that woman had really loved her son, she would not have wanted him to grow up a criminal, as many undisciplined children do. She would not have wanted him to have a broken home, because of his wild, undisciplined ways. Multiplied thousands of divorces come because of lack of discipline in youth. A child corrected and chastened in youth makes a much safer matrimonial bet. If she had loved her son, she would have wanted him to be happy; and a rebellious, self-willed youngster grows up unsatisfied and unhappy, unadjusted to society, unable to control his own passions and

wants. So the mother who thought she loved her son too much to whip him, really loved her own ease too much. She had no integrity, no principle, no conviction, which she loved enough to do right, enduring some pain to please God and for the good of her son. Certainly whipping is hard on the mother or father who love their children. But that is not as hard as later seeing them come to trouble and ruin because they were not disciplined in childhood. And intelligent parents had better do right and save later trouble by whipping in time and being happy later.

And do you think that all children would do right without any punishment if they were loved? Then, all of human authority is wrong. If that silly theory be right, then it is wrong to have policemen, wrong to have courts, wrong to have traffic rules and penalties, wrong to have laws against murder or theft or adultery. If that silly theory be right, then God is wrong to punish His own children, wrong to send sinners to Hell!

That foolish theory that love can rule adequately without any punishment for sin denies every fundamental doctrine of the Bible. It denies the fact of man's fallen nature, the taint of sin inherent in every child. It denies the inspiration of the Bible which so clearly commands us to whip children. That silly theory teaches that God is brutal and mean to have a Hell of torment, or to bring sinners to judgment. Such an idea that love can rule adequately without punishment, is wholly unChristian and anti-Scriptural. Bible Christians must accept it as a doctrine of God that sin needs to be punished and that when sin is unpunished men and women, boys and girls go further into sin. Real love in the hearts of parents for their children will help them to punish sin and grow good men and women, afraid of sin and loving righteousness.

3. "Whipping is likely to break their little wills." Surely this excuse was invented by somebody who never had a child of his own. When you have had six as I have, and have earnestly tried to bring them up in the nurture and admonition of the Lord, you will find out their "little wills" are not so easily broken as you suppose. Self-will is the very heart of all sin. Isaiah 53:6 says, "All we like sheep have gone astray; we have turned every one to his own way." There is no danger of an honest whipping, in a righteous cause, breaking the will (Continued on page seven)

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Chaplain Holliday, our N. A. General Secretary, writes us from overseas: During the German occupation thousands of Russian civilians were moved to internment camps in Belgium and Germany. Missionary G. visited 21 camps; was able to import thousands of Bibles and portions of it in Russian, and distribute them. He had the joy of leading many to Christ. He was also able to send Bibles to the Ukraine, and streams of requests have come from Russia for Bibles and hymn books. He printed and mailed 2000 of the latter to the new converts in Ukraine.

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The R. M. S. needs thousands of Russian Bibles and Gospels for the Russian border lands and prisoners of war now; will need at least 30 million as soon as the war ends, for Russians who never had a copy. It has already largely met the need. We crave your prayerful cooperation. Write "The Friend of Russians" for more news.

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The Bible Proves Its Own Origin

(Continued from page one)

radical change of life while the teachings of the others leave their leaders spiritually dead? Why do the nations which honor the Bible lead the world in education and civilization while those which honor the non-Christian books are still pagan after thousands of years? Why is it that no one hastens to pay restitution after reading Karl Marx or repents of his sins after reading the Koran? Why do people never confess the forgiveness of their transgressions after accepting the teachings of Buddha or experience fellowship with God through the Confucian Classics?

The mystery is easily discovered in the words, "all Scripture is given by inspiration of God." The living God wrote the Bible and it is He who stirs its readers to conviction. The other authors are dead and their readers are left to get what they can by themselves. This demonstrates the fact that the Bible is God-given while the non-Christian books are man-made.

A Mohammedan after spending the summer reading the Koran, said to a missionary, "I am a better man than Mohammed." Was there ever a Christian who read the Bible through and said, "I am better than Christ?" All the world stands in awe of the sublime character of Jesus Christ while the inconsistent life of Mohammed arouses disrespect.

THE UNITY OF THE BOOK

The Bible contains sixty-six books, written by thirty-six men, covering a period of 1600 years. The writers represented many classes such as kings, poets, princes, shepherds, fishermen, musicians and others. They were widely separated. Daniel was

prime minister in Babylon; Paul was two years a prisoner in Rome; Moses was a great general leading 2,000,000 people through the Arabian desert; John was a humble fisherman on the sea of Galilee; David was a conquering king on the throne of Judah; Jeremiah was a hated prophet imprisoned in a muddy cistern in Jerusalem. Yet all their writings have the same theme and spirit.

The writers were scattered over a wide territory between Italy and Babylon. Most of them never met the others, yet not one of these authors contradicted the teachings of any of the other thirty-five, because back of the mind of each was the master mind of the Holy Spirit guiding all the authors into the truth.

If you have trouble in believing the Bible, read Christ's promise, "If any man willeth to do His will, he shall know of the teaching" (John 7:17 R.V.).

A thousand years intervened between some of the writings. Times had greatly changed yet, the writings agree. When Moses wrote, he had a horde of slaves for his readers, but when Paul wrote he addressed the flower of learning among the Greeks and Romans, yet we find no contradiction. David and Solomon wrote from kingly thrones while John wrote from banishment on Patmos and Ezekiel from exile in Persia. Daniel wrote his prophecies in Babylon 700 years before John wrote the book of Revelation, yet they are in perfect accord. Scientific books get out of date but the Bible has remained the same for thousands of years and is more popular today than ever.

Moses looked ahead and saw Christ, so did David and Isaiah. Paul looked back and saw the same Christ of whom they had

prophesied. They all agreed because Christ is the central theme of the book.

The Bible contains 3,568,489 letters, 773,692 words, 31,173 verses and 1,189 chapters. The word "Lord" occurs 1,855 times. Psalm 18:8 is the middle verse. The longest verse is Esther 8:9; the shortest is John 11:35 while Ezra 7:21 contains all the letters of the alphabet except J.

The Bible has been assailed by the strongest opposing forces known to man but it has weathered all the storms. Diocletian threw the whole Roman empire against it; Porphyry ridiculed with all the subtlety of his genius; Voltaire said it would be a forgotten book in 100 years but today it is read in over 900 languages and dialects and is the best selling book in all the world because the Bible is divinely protected and promoted. The Holy Spirit is guarding the truth He wrote.

This book gave Daniel courage in the lion's den; drove away Satan when he tempted Christ; comforted Paul and Silas in the prison dungeon and gave peace to the penitent thief on the cross. Whatever it has done for others it can do for you. Are you putting it to the test? Will you let it guide your life? Mr. D. L. Moody once said, "A man cannot backslide more than twenty-four hours if he reads his Bible every day."

FULFILLED PROPHECIES PROVE THE BIBLE

If someone had written 300 years ago that you would be reading this booklet now, you would say that their knowledge was truly supernatural. For the same reason we say that the Bible is a supernatural book. It has prophesied scores of incidents which came true in one, two and even three thousand years after being uttered.

Tyre was a flourishing, fortified city at the time when Ezekiel said it would be laid in the waters. Two hundred and fifty years later Alexander cast it into the sea and it is there yet (Ezek. 26). Micah said Samaria would be a "heap of the field" 2000 years before it happened (Micah 1:6). Zechariah said that Ashkelon would not be inhabited (Zech. 9:5). I visited its desolate site 2,500 years later and found no people living there, but chanced to get some delicious apricots. When Jericho was destroyed, Joshua said that the man who dared to rebuild it would lose his sons. Five hundred years later Heil rebuilt it and buried his sons Abiram and Segub, and the old site has been desolate for 3,500 years (Josh. 6:26). When Edom was a flourishing stronghold, Jeremiah declared, "Edom shall be a desolation." I camped for a week in Petra, its ancient capital, and the desolation was very depressing. Not a soul lived there (Jer. 49:17). The Bible is the only book that has dared to guarantee such predictions.

At the time when the East gate of Jerusalem was a popular entrance, Ezekiel prophesied that it would be shut, "because the Lord, the God of Israel hath entered in by it, therefore it shall be shut." It was the gate of Christ's Triumphant Entry. Four hundred years ago sultan Suleiman walled it up and it is still shut (Ezek. 44:2).

When Zion was a stronghold of the Jews, Micah said, "Zion shall be plowed as a field." Today every building is gone and the site is covered with truck gardens and weeds (Micah 3:12). When Jerusalem was at the pinnacle of its grandeur, Christ prophesied that not one stone of the Temple should be left upon another (Matt. 24:2). Only forty years elapsed before it was fulfilled. The word of the Lord standeth sure. When Jeremiah declared that Jerusalem would be rebuilt out as far as Gareb and Goath and on the king's wine-press, the people must have said, "Impossible!" because it could not be walled in. But now the city does not need walls and

it is growing far afield, even beyond these places (Jer. 31:38-40). Zechariah said Jerusalem should be inhabited as "towns without walls." He foresaw the present "colonies" grouped in the suburbs like separate towns (Zech. 2:4). Ezekiel prophesied that the desolate land should become like the Garden of Eden. In the last twenty years thousands of acres of swamp and marsh land have been reclaimed and colonized (Ezek. 30:33-35). Isaiah said the land would be planted with "strange slips" and thousands of Eucalyptus trees have been imported by the Jews to overcome malaria (Isa. 17:10). Isaiah also predicted that a highway should be opened between Egypt and Assyria. Formerly the caravan route went through Edom but God said that way would be closed and sure enough it is closed and the traffic goes by Beisan across the Jordan.

God declared that the Jews would be scattered and they can now be found in almost all the countries of the world. He said also that in the last days He would bring them back to Palestine and a surprising number have gone back since the war.

The secret of fulfilled prophecy is that "holy men of God spake as they were moved by the Holy Ghost" (2 Pet. 1:21).

PROPHECIES CONCERNING CHRIST

Soon after Adam chose to disbelieve God in Eden, the index finger of prophecy began to officiate. Its first announcement was that a Person would come who should bruise the serpent that had caused Adam's downfall (Gen. 3:15). With this simple beginning, the prophetic message rested for 2,000 years, after which the Author told Abraham from which nation of the race the Person should come (Gen. 12:3). The Holy Spirit became silent again for over 100 years, and then told Jacob that the Person would come from the tribe of Judah (Gen.

49:10). Another silence of 800 years and the Spirit informed king David that the Deliverer was to come from his house (Psalm 72). Two hundred years more and He told Isaiah that Immanuel was to be born of a virgin (Isa. 7:14). Just about that time He told Micah that He would be born in Bethlehem (Micah 5:2). Three hundred years more and Malachi was informed that this Deliverer would come to the Temple as the Messenger of the Covenant and would be preceded by a forerunner. Four hundred years more of silence, and in "the fullness of time" the virgin Mary was told that she would be the mother of Jesus, the promised Messiah (Luke 1:31). No man could have lived through those 4,000 years and have prophesied those events. The secret of their truthfulness is that "holy men of God spake as they were moved by the Holy Ghost" (2 Peter 1:20).

Could any man have thought out the diversity of characteristics of Christ, with their seeming contradictions, yet, which now present a beautiful harmony since prophecies have been fulfilled?

About 1,500 B. C. Job saw Christ as the Redeemer (Job 19:25).

In 1,400 B. C. Moses saw Him as a Prophet (Deut. 18:15-18).

About 1,050 B. C. David saw Him as a Priest (Ps. 110:4).

In 700 B. C. Isaiah saw Him coming as a suffering Saviour (Isa. 53).

In 710 B. C. Micah saw Him as the Everlasting One (Micah 5:2).

In 600 B. C. Jeremiah saw Him as the "Lord our Righteousness" (Jer. 23:5).

In 538 B. C. Daniel spoke of Him as the coming Messiah (Dan. 9:25).

About 487 B. C. Zechariah saw Him as a King (Zech. 9:9).

And in 400 B. C. Malachi gave the final picture of Him as the "Sun of Righteousness."

No book but the Bible and no other person but Christ has been given such a prophetic triumph.

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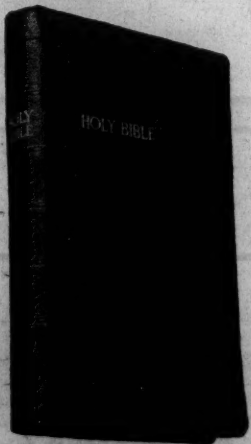
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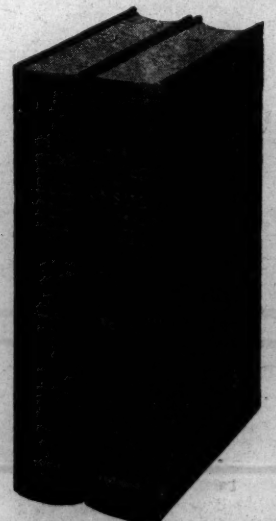
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The reason that the Bible prophecies concerning Christ agree is because the Holy Spirit guided the writers into the exact truth. Therefore, "No prophecy of the scriptures is of any private interpretation" (Peter 1:20-21).

(The above article is Chapter I from the book, *THE ROMANCE OF THE BIBLE* by Dr. Edward A. Marshall. There are seven other chapters in this book, and it may be purchased for 25c from The Tract Evangel Society, 753 Fairview Ave., (RFD 7), Kalamazoo, Michigan. Dr. Marshall gave us permission to print this chapter.)

FREE WITH 2 SUBS.

(Continued from page one)

Of Christ. It is cloth bound, has fifteen strong chapters, 148 pages, and has a beautiful picture of the coming Saviour and angels on the jacket, drawn especially for this book by a famous Christian artist of Chicago. The retail price of the book is \$1.25, and, compared to other war-time books, it is a splendid value at that price. The book and two subscriptions have a total value of \$4.25. All this is yours for only \$3.00.

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Note the following special features of this new book on prophecy.

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of Bible teaching on the second coming of Christ and His future reign on earth and related events. It is not speculation, is not a comment based on the newspapers or the opinions of men, but straight-out Bible teaching.

2. It begins where the Bible begins on the subject, that is, in the book of Genesis, and traces the great plan of God for the future as revealed in His prophecies in both the Old Testament and the New Testament. This makes the teaching easier to understand by every reader. It also guarantees that the teaching is not perverted to fit some human theory.

3. The teaching is so simple and takes the Bible at such literal face value that Christians of all denominations, Bible scholars of all schools of thought who actually believe the Bible to be the Word of God, who want to know what the Bible teaches on the subject

of the Saviour's coming and reign, will find themselves largely agreed on the things taught here. This book will settle difficulties, will lead to more united thought all over America on what the Bible actually teaches on prophetic themes, that is, on future happenings on this earth.

4. The book will be found ideally fitted for use in classes in churches. It will be used in women's home Bible classes, by adult Sunday School classes and young people's Bible classes. Pastors will preach series of sermons based on these chapters. If you could attend a great week's Bible conference on prophecy, you would not get as much clear Bible exposition, and teaching as here are found in one volume. And that volume you may have free. You will read it over and over. You will check the Scriptures by your Bible, meditate and study many happy hours with the guidance of this book which has been so carefully prepared after many years of study.

Dr. Sam Morris, of the famous Voice Of Temperance Broadcast, well-known Bible teacher, evangelist and temperance orator, says about this book:

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Moody Monthly said of the first edition of this volume:

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What Preachers Say About "The Sword Of The Lord"

Dr. Louis T. Talbot, president of the Bible Institute of Los Angeles, long pastor of the great Church Of The Open Door, the most influential Christian worker on the whole Pacific Coast, we think, says the following about *The Sword of the Lord*:

"No more welcome paper comes to my desk than that published by you, *The Sword of the Lord*. While there may be many Christian periodicals and magazines filling important needs, *The Sword of the Lord* seems to have a field of its own, presenting, as it does, the evangelistic emphasis. One is thoroughly stirred with soul winning zeal in reading it and for that reason it fills a great need. I heartily commend it to my brethren in the ministry and also to the laity. May God grant it the widest possible circulation."

Dr. V. Raymond Edman, president of Wheaton College, says, "Evangelism, in my estimation, is the missing note of the church in this day. We are building congregations, institutions, and the like for God's service, and are expecting the unsaved to come in.

On the contrary, we are commanded to go out and to find those who sit in darkness and the shadow of death.

"Mrs. Edman and I find *The Sword of the Lord* to be a great encouragement and challenge to us. We trust it will continue its deep and blessed ministry."

Many letters come from preachers telling how they have been wonderfully helped in Christian joy and usefulness and soul winning by *The Sword of the Lord*. Rev. Harold Griffin, of Paragould, Arkansas, says,

"Three issues of your paper, *The Sword of the Lord*, have reached me, and I must say they have already changed my ministry. I receive other papers but they can't hold a light to yours. That is from my heart . . .

"I've heard Brother Appelman, Brother Morris, Brother Hankins, Brother Lee and some of the other brethren—how good it is to follow them in your paper. Their sermons and yours are a great help to me. I can hardly wait for one issue to another. I'm passing them around—wish all my members had a subscription."

How many ministers might be led from the dry husks of modernism back to the Bible, the living fountain of water and the bread of life, by reading the messages of *The Sword of the Lord* if someone but cared enough for them and the gospel to subscribe for *The Sword of the Lord* to be sent to them.

From Dunnsville, Virginia, comes the following letter:

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"The book reviews and advertisements of the fine books by the

great conservative authors who are faithful to the Bible are also a great service to your readers. My library is filled by the works of the modernists. But a few months ago I repented of my sin and turned to the true gospel. I never knew what real joy there is in preaching until I turned to the Bible for my sermons, and the nurture of my own soul. Thanks a million times for your great publication. It does my soul good to read it. Truly it is a publication for preachers as well as laymen."

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From Burlington, N. C., a woman writes: "That sermon ('I Believe God,' by Dr. Joe Henry Hankins) had a great bearing on the conversion of one of my sisters."

A juvenile court judge writes as follows:

"I just want to express my appreciation of your paper which I have been reading for some time, and find your articles are up to date and many times give ahead as to what certain things are, or leading to.

"I receive three papers that I value very highly, and your paper is one of them. I am now finishing my third year with the Juvenile Court work of this city and I find the contributors to your paper are abreast of the times in their sermons and statements.

"I think of the statement in the Old Testament concerning the Jews, 'The parents have eaten sour grapes and the children's teeth are on edge.'"

From Marietta, Georgia, comes word of how a happy accident resulted in a subscription for *The Sword of the Lord*. A woman writes, "A neighbor's copy of *The Sword of the Lord* was left in my mail box yesterday by mistake.

(Continued on page eight)

A useful book for new converts, young Christians and all who are troubled about

BIBLE BAPTISM

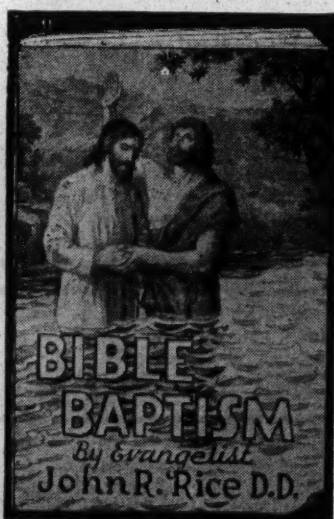
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Why not buy a copy of this book, *Bible Baptism* for each new convert in your church? There is a beauty, a usefulness, a divine importance to baptism which is neglected in the average church. Here is a part of the Saviour's Great Commission which must not be left out if we expect His fullest blessing. Help get Christians started right in the Christian life by knowing why and how they should be baptised and what is the sweet meaning, the whole-hearted consecration involved in Bible baptism. See that they are armed against the many false doctrines prevalent on this subject. See that they know that baptism is for believers only, that baptism does not save, that baptism has not been done away with as ultra-dispensationalists teach.

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THE RICH YOUNG RULER

(Continued from page one)

right. There was something wrong with that statement, something that did not ring true. If the man had something, he certainly didn't lack it. No, the thing he lacked was that he needed an experience of grace with the Lord Jesus Christ. The thing that he lacked was the salvation of his soul.

I want us to analyze this boy's experience. I want to give you an outline of something that is happening in Chicago; in Nashville, where Brother Lewis comes from; in Fort Worth, where I come from; and, for that matter, to the ends of America; to the ends of the earth. This story containing the statement of this young man's attitude towards Jesus Christ is a vivid, true to every-day life, portrait sized description of almost every sinner with whom I have ever talked in my life, especially every Gentile sinner. You say, "Well, what about Jewish sinners?" Jews are trained against Christ, and there is a little different angle of approach to their minds. Let us consider the outline. It is superbly clear. It will help you with yourself. It will serve you with others.

He Sought the Right Person

The first thing about this young fellow was that he came to the right Person. He came to the right Person. There is nobody in the world who can give us salvation except the Lord Jesus Christ. Last night I told the people in the Bethany Reformed Church that when Jesus Christ came down from glory, when He was born of the virgin Mary, when He died for our sins, when He was raised from the dead, His life, His death, His resurrection, tied the hands of God in two ways. First, God cannot save anybody without Jesus Christ. Second, God must save everybody who comes to Him in Jesus Christ. Not even God can forgive our sins outside of the Lord Jesus Christ. This boy came to the right Person.

Here in Chicago, for instance, with all the great churches that you have, with all the matchless radio programs, with all the Bibles, the religious tracts, with the multitudes of Christians constantly bearing a true witness,

great numbers have approached the Lord Jesus Christ in the sense of knowing their need of Him. They realize that they are not Christians. They realize that they are lost. They realize that they are sinners. They realize they need something they do not have. They realize that Jesus Christ is the only One who can give it to them. This young man came to the right Person.

If you want salvation, if you want separation, if you want sanctification, if you want fruitfulness in service, there is no other source for it in all the world except the Lord Jesus Christ. He is the source; He is the supply; He is the sum; He is the substance of it all. In Him and in Him alone, will you find satisfaction.

He Came in The Right Spirit

Second, he came in the right spirit. First, he came in a hurry. Second, he came kneeling. Everybody ought to be in a hurry to be saved. Surely your hearts will say Amen to that. Why, people are in a hurry to make money. People are in a hurry to stuff themselves with vitamins for their health. People are in a hurry to rush the season and get into spring clothes. Life is just one hurry, hurry, hurry in every direction. But, my friends, there is just one thing in all this world worth hurrying after, and that is the eternal welfare, the everlasting well-being of your souls, your salvation in the Lord Jesus Christ. Yet the heart-breaking thing is that people will hurry after every will-o'-the-wisp that the devil suggests, every fantasy the world has to propose, every fancy the flesh may crave, but when it comes to salvation, when it involves life eternal, they go at a snail's pace, if they go at all. You have to keep on pressing, pleading, inviting, beseeching, weeping, agonizing, to get them to come to meeting, let alone to close with the offer of God's mercy. Oh, what fools these mortals be! God shake them up, wake them up, break them up that they may see the true proportion of things.

But the boy came not only in a hurry, he came kneeling at the

feet of the Lord Jesus. I wish I had time to go into detail about that. It is very important. You must humble yourself to be saved. You must stoop down low before the God of all the earth. You must cast every bit of your pride behind your back. You are in the presence of the Majesty on high.

There is a story told in my Southland of a colored slave who had an irascible, very proud master. Trouble came to that master. One day he hunted up that slave and asked him what he had to do to be saved. The Negro knew about the Master's terrible pride, about his terrible temper, his terrible irascibility. So he said, "Boss, if you want to be saved, you gotta go with me to the piggan and kneel down in the filth and ask God to forgive you of your sins." The white man drawing back his hand smashed it into the Negro's face, throwing him against the side of the house, and walked away in his bitter pride.

But the Lord didn't leave the white man alone. He was in constant torment of soul. Finally he came to the Negro again bitterly saying, "All right, let's go to the piggan." The Negro began to clap his hands and shout. "Boss," he said, "you don't have to go to the piggan. You can be saved right here."

I found out a long time ago that until you humble yourself before God, until you realize the defilement, the corruption, the evil, the iniquity of your soul; until you are willing to take your place with the dirtiest drunk; with the cheapest harlot, with the vilest jailbird, you are never going to know salvation, no, not in ten million years.

If the President of the United States of America were to walk into this Victory Center, we would all rise to our feet to do him honor. A greater than President Roosevelt, Jesus Christ, is here; and it does not bemean any man to humble himself, or any woman to humble herself, before Jesus. Who are you, and who is your father that you should clasp your filthy rags of abominable self-righteousness about you and become haughty in the face of the Lord of Creation?

He Asked the Right Question

This boy came to the right Person. He came in the right spirit. He came with the right question, the most important question in all the world, "What shall I do that I may inherit eternal life?" That is more important than "What shall I do that I may eat?" That is more important than "What shall I do to get married?" That is more important than "What shall I do to get an education?" That is more important than "What shall I do to buy insurance?" That is more important than what shall I do in any other experience, venture, or adventure of any of our lives. If you have eternal life, you have everything. If you do not have eternal life, if you will permit the expression, "you ain't got nothing." You don't have a thing. You just don't have a thing! It will all, every bit of it turn to ashes, to gall, to bitter wormwood. When the undertaker crosses your hands over your body in the sleep of death, even the little you have had will have gone by the board, gone with the wind. In the grave, where is all your striving, and stewing, and sweating, and sacrificing to make a little more money, to get a better name, to pile up a little for old age?

He came with the right question: "What shall I do that I may inherit eternal life?" What shall I do that I may have my sins forgiven? What shall I do that I may be saved? What shall I do that I may be made a child of God? What shall I do that I may escape the torments of Hell? What shall I do that I may enjoy

the bliss of Heaven? What shall I do that I may have a right to the promises and the forgiveness of God? What shall I do that I may have the indwelling presence of the Holy Spirit? What shall I do that I may have assurance of salvation? "What shall I do that I may inherit eternal life?"

He Received The Right Answer

The fourth thing is this. Not only did this boy come to the right Person, not only did he come in the right attitude, not only did he ask the right question; but he got the right answer. Remember that. He got the right answer: "Come, take up the cross and follow me."

You say, "Preacher, wait a minute. You have left out part of it. Jesus said, 'Sell whatsoever thou hast and give to the poor.'" Well, my friends, I don't believe that applies to very many of us, because if it did somebody would have to sell what they have in order to give it to us. We are the poor of the earth; at least, we are a long ways from being the rich. But as far as the general rule is concerned, the second part of that appeal: "Come, take up the cross and follow me," is the word that the Lord Jesus Christ directs to every one of us. My friends, there is no salvation unless we obey the matchless Son of God. Hear me again! You know the great majority of the people of this town believe that Jesus Christ is the Son of God. They believe that He died for their sins. They believe that He was raised from the dead. They believe that He can save them. But that is not enough. That is not enough! Faith without works is dead. The devils in Hell believe and tremble. If your faith is evangelical faith, if your faith is evangelistic faith, if it is saving faith, it will be followed by "come, take up thy cross and follow me."

He got the right answer. And you here—and you out yonder on the radio, the best I know how, I have been letting the Holy Spirit use me to write on your hearts, to inscribe on your souls, to indite on your minds the words, the very words, the blazing, compassionate appeal of God, "Believe on the Lord Jesus Christ and thou shalt be saved." Oh, believe it, hear it, heed it, obey it, accept it, step out on it, trust it, rely upon it. God knows best. He cannot be mistaken. He cannot lie, or misguide. Cast yourself and your all on this fervent proclamation.

But He Did the Wrong Thing

This boy came to the right place. He came in the right attitude. He asked the right question. He got the right answer. But the poor fellow did the wrong thing. That is the thing that hurts, that breaks the heart of an evangelist, of a pastor, of every other Christian for that matter. We are giving you the word of God the best we know how, stumbly, hesitatingly, nevertheless the word of God, assured by God's promise, by Christ's blood, by the Spirit's power. Yet some of you persist in playing the fool as did the young man yonder in the long ago. You know what God wants you to do; you know what Christ wants you to do, you know what the Holy Spirit is pressing upon your souls, and yet, just as the rich young ruler did so are you doing the wrong thing.

What do I mean when I say he did the wrong thing? He turned his back on the Lord Jesus Christ. He loved his possessions more than he loved his soul's salvation. You say, "That doesn't apply to me. I don't have any possessions." Of course it doesn't apply to you. Why the devil would be crazy to give the average person in Chicago thirty pieces of silver. He can buy them for three. He can buy them for one, with a plugged hole in the middle. He can buy them for a theatre ticket. I just wonder as you listen to me, I speak to you, those of you who

are not Christians, some here, surely multitudes over the radio, what is the devil offering you? What is the devil giving you, that you are turning your back on the Lord Jesus Christ? He must be offering you something, holding up some prize before your eyes. If he were to give you the world besides, it would not be worth it. With what bauble does he have you charmed? For what tinsel are you trading your immortal soul? What cap and bells are you donning to dance to the devil's piping? What Circean potion is he giving you to quaff that makes you as one of the lotus eaters? What imitation golden apple is he casting in front of you that makes you falter, even forget the race you need to run to Heaven? It is not worth it! The cost is too great! The consequences are too bitter! The consideration he asks is far too exacting!

Be warned! In the devil's booth, there are no bargains. The devil's wares know no ceiling price. Your happiness, your immortal welfare is the bargain. Satan insidiously seeks. Flee from his blandishments ere it be everlastingly too late. Flee from his embraces lest Delilah like he hurries you to your eternal doom. Resist the adversary in the name of the Lord that he flee from you.

You also have come to the right Person. You also have come in the right attitude. You also have asked the right question. You also have received the right answer. Now, now, now, do the right thing. Take up your cross of repentance. Exercise your God given faith. Follow the Lord Jesus Christ. The end is salvation, safety, surety, satisfaction.

MY DECISION FOR CHRIST

Dear lost sinner, will you take Christ as your Saviour and sign this today?

Evangelist John R. Rice, editor
Sword of the Lord
214 W. Wesley Street
Wheaton, Illinois

Dear Brother Rice:

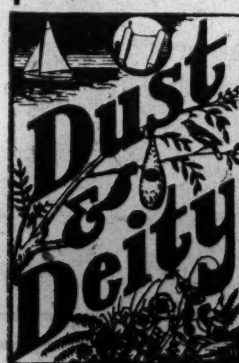
I have read Dr. Appelman's sermon, "The Rich Young Ruler" in *The Sword of the Lord*. I know, too, I have done the wrong thing by turning my back on the Lord Jesus Christ. I have been a poor lost sinner, but I take Jesus Christ as my own personal Saviour and trust Him here and now to forgive my sins and to save my soul. I will claim Christ before others and try to live for Him. Please tell Dr. Appelman for me.

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By Evangelist Robert J. Wells

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A Glimpse At The Program

Tentative arrangements for the program, almost completely confirmed, guarantee a time of rich spiritual feasting and instructive assistance. For instance, we plan to begin the Conference on Sunday afternoon with Evangelist Hyman Appelman as the main feature on a program filled with interesting things. At the evening service Dr. Sam Morris, one of the most popular speakers in America, will bring a stirring, practical message on evangelism in his own inimitable style. Then, each evening we will have the privilege of hearing the outstanding evangelists of America in the great Billy Sunday Tabernacle. Monday Dr. John R. Rice, editor of *The Sword of the Lord*, will speak. On Tuesday we will hear Dr. Hyman Appelman; and on Wednesday, Dr. Bob Jones, Sr., Founder and President of Bob Jones College and internationally famous evangelist, will bring the message. Thursday night will feature Dr. Joe Henry Hankins; Friday, Dr. John R. Rice again; and for the great closing service of the Conference, Dr. Hyman Appelman will bring the message.

In addition to the great evening services in the Billy Sunday Tabernacle the daily program will consist of an early morning devotion at 7:00 o'clock. Classes and discussion groups at 9:00 A.M.,

meetings in the Auditorium and Tabernacle at the 10:00 A.M. and 11:00 A.M. hours, respectively.

Afternoons Free For Recreation

The afternoons will be left free for recreation purposes and rest. Winona Lake is a very beautiful vacation resort and there are all kinds of opportunities for recreational activities including boating, fishing, swimming, hiking, baseball, tennis, golf, etc. After the evening meal there will be great hillside meetings each evening at 6:30 o'clock.

Class In Gospel Song Leading

J. Stratton Shufelt, widely known evangelistic song leader and gospel soloist, formerly director of music and soloist for the Moody Memorial Church in Chicago, will conduct special classes each morning at 9:00 o'clock in Gospel Song Leading. These classes will be open to all registered guests and will feature training in the highly specialized field of evangelistic music. Evangelists, pastors, and those aspiring to become evangelistic song leaders will want to take advantage of this course under the capable direction of one of the greatest singers and song leaders in America.

Discussion Groups

At this same hour, for those who will not be interested in the music course, there will be round table discussion groups conducted by men especially fitted for the responsibility of leading a discussion in a particular field, and assisted each morning by all of the other speakers of the Conference. The schedule for this hour is as follows:

Monday, Dr. Rice, "Preparing And Organizing For Revival."

Tuesday, Dr. Wells, "Advertising and Delegations."

Wednesday, Dr. Hankins, "A Visitation Program."

Thursday, Rev. Hendley, "Personal Work In A Revival."

Friday, Dr. Appelman, "The Invitation."

Saturday, Dr. Comer, "Conserving Results."

Great Problems Dealt With

Great themes dealing with the major problems of evangelism will be the feature of the addresses at the ten and eleven o'clock hours. The program is as follows:

10:00 A.M.

Monday, Dr. Hankins, "The Biggest Hindrance To Revivals Today."

Tuesday, Dr. Morris, "The Evangelist As A Bible Teacher."

Wednesday, Dr. Hankins, "The Place Of Prayer In Revivals."

Thursday, Dr. Jones, "Revivals I Have Known."

Friday, Rev. Hendley, "What Conviction Is And How It Is Produced."

Saturday, Dr. Wells, "Suggestions To Soul Winners."

11:00 A.M.

Monday, Dr. Appelman, "Preparing Christians For Revival."

Tuesday, Dr. Jones, "The Kind of Preaching Needed For Revival."

Wednesday, Dr. Rice, "Prevailing, Intercessory Prayer."

Thursday, Dr. Appelman, "The Kind Of Message Needed For Revival."

Friday, Dr. Rice, "Be Filled With The Spirit."

Saturday, Dr. Appelman, "The Results Of Being Filled With The Spirit."

Get Your Reservation In Early

If you are interested in evangelism, this is a Conference you can't afford to miss! You will want to be there for every session. You will want to take notes and you will want the privilege

of discussing some special problems with these men who are being so greatly blessed of God in the evangelistic field. But if you are to attend, you must get your reservation in early. Write us about accommodations and reasonable rates now. Many reservations have already been made and others are coming in nearly every

day, so if you desire to have a part in this great Conference on Evangelism, write without further delay for information and reservations. Address all correspondence to:

Evangelist Robert J. Wells,
Conference Director,
214 West Wesley Street,
Wheaton, Illinois.

WHIPPING CHILDREN

(Continued from page three)

of a child. There is not even any danger of its breaking his self-respect, if it be done honorably by godly parents, for a good reason.

Break the child's will? Do you mean whipping would give a child an inferiority complex, make him indecisive, vacillating, without convictions? Like Admiral Dewey I suppose? Like John and Charles Wesley, like Benjamin Franklin, like George Washington? These great men, chastised when they needed it, reared up to obey orders, seemed to have had plenty of will left! Actually, children who are taught obedience, made to give up rebellion; children who are chastised for sin really come to have more convictions, have more standards of right and wrong. A child who early in life develops great standards of right and wrong, justice and truth and discipline and self-control, by having parents who really exercise authority over them until they are well enough developed and grown up enough to control themselves—such children have a far better basis of sound character, a better set of moral standards and convictions, with which to meet life's problems. How I thank God that this overbearing will of my own, this flaming temper, this domineering spirit was curbed in youth and held in check by godly authority in the home until I developed conscience enough, and habits sufficient and convictions strong enough to control them myself!

4. "But it is dangerous to thwart a child's desires," say some pseudo-psychologists. "Whipping may leave a child with repressed desires, and inner rebellion that may ruin his life." That is a sample of the bosh taught in some universities, taught in child-psychology courses, the piffle taught by lecturers to clubs of silly women who do not care about the Bible or God.

The simple truth is that the quickest way to straighten out the sub-conscious mind of a child and stop that inner rebellion, that sense of frustration, that spirit of "I'll get even," or "I'd like to kill my Dad and my Mother," is a good old-fashioned thrashing. That works even in the cradle. Many, many times I have seen a child scream and howl for his own way, fight his mother or father, yelling defiance, for a half hour at a time. Then finally I have seen the mother or father with a few vigorous blows settle the whole matter. The spanked child would suddenly give up his rebellion, would cling in penitence to his mother or father, and when assured of forgiveness would peacefully go to sleep within a minute of time!

What is wrong with a lot of these criminals who are enemies of society, rebels against all authority is simply that they never got whipped enough, never got really conquered, and so never learned to conquer themselves. What is wrong with these wild delinquent children, filling the jails, young people who are the burden of law enforcement officers, of teachers and parents alike, is simply that they need some strong authority to take them in hand and make them do right. The best balanced, most complacent, happy personalities in the world are those who early

learned to submit to authority, and by being exercised by chastisement found it yielded "the peaceable fruit of righteousness," as the Scripture plainly promises (Heb. 12:11).

5. "But children who are whipped will hate their father or their mother," says some theorist who never tried it, probably never had a child. A lady columnist wrote, "I am sure I should have hated my mother if she had whipped me." But the poor, ignorant lady would never have talked so silly if she had had proper rearing. Do you mean that citizens hate a government which enforces its laws? All the evidence proves the contrary. A righteous government which vigorously enforces righteous laws and punishes crime, finds that crime decreases and the citizenship is loyal and patriotic. On the other hand, when law enforcement lags, then the whole moral fiber of the nation dissolves. Do you mean that John and Charles Wesley hated their mother, Susannah Wesley, because they were beaten when they needed it? Then you do not know the story of the Wesleys! All over America men and women have told me with tears how they revered the mother or father who reared them strictly, whipped them when necessary, and brought them up in the nurture and admonition of the Lord.

6. "But there are more effective ways of punishing children than by whipping," some people say. In answer, I will admit there are times when other punishments seem indicated. No doubt the child who scatters things on the floor should be made to pick them up, and sometimes if Sally pulls the hair out of Mary's doll baby, it may be she should give up her own doll in exchange. Sometimes the boy who is not a good boy through the week should not be allowed to go to the picnic on Saturday. I say that sometimes the punishment should be directly connected with the offense, and other punishments sometimes ought to be given besides whipping.

But the fact remains that whipping has a place that nothing else can fill in rearing children.

For one thing, it is clearly commanded in the Bible. The Bible never commands fathers to make their children stand in the corner, or to get down from the table, or to go to bed early, or to stay in the house when other boys play ball. The biggest argument for whipping children is that the Bible plainly commands it. And for a Christian who believes that the Bible is God's Word there is no answer to that argument.

But there are good reasons back of God's plan, as is true in every case. For one thing, whipping settles the matter quickly and definitely and can bring a child to penitence and confession at once. Suppose a child has to stay in after school for a week. No teacher knows for sure that the boy will be penitent at the end of a week, honestly sorry for his sins, and resolve to do better. But a good, solid whipping could continue until the will were thoroughly subdued and until the boy penitently promised to do better. After all, no punishment does any good which does not affect the rebellious will of the child. And

further punishment is not necessary. I believe, after there is a deep-seated resolve to do right and a genuine penitence for sin committed in the heart of the offender. As Proverbs 20:30 says, "The blueness of a wound cleanseth away evil: so do stripes the inward parts of the belly." Stripes do something for the rebellious, fallen nature of a child that cannot be done by other forms of punishment, it appears from the Scripture and from experience.

If little Sally pulled the hair from the head of Mary's doll, then having to give up her own doll might make her only more resentful, more determined to get even with Sally some other way.

A sound spanking at the same time, with proper apologies and some genuine plan of restitution, would be much more likely to fix whatever was wrong in Sally's heart that made her want to pull out Mary's doll's hair. We can safely follow the plain commands of the Bible and know we are on the right track.

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The Soul Winner's Club

By Evangelist Robert J. Wells

In this week's column I would like to bring a report of the activities of the Club members for the month of March which we have compiled from the Individual Member's Monthly Report Cards, returned to the office at the end of the month. But first of all, let me call attention to the Soul Winner's Pledge which every member must sign. Read it carefully, and you will then understand the underlying factors in this report. I present it broken down into six parts:

The Soul Winner's Pledge

"With God's help,

1. I will earnestly endeavor to be a real soul winner from this day forth.
2. I promise the Lord to read my Bible daily,
3. To live a life of separation from the things of the world,
4. To spend at least one half hour daily in prayer,
5. To regularly and prayerfully deal with needy souls in an attempt to lead them to Christ and into a victorious Christian life,
6. And to make regular monthly reports to the directors of the Club on the forms provided for this purpose."

Tabulated Report of 169 Members

We have carefully tabulated the reports received from the 169 members who made their report for the month of March, and we present it as follows:

Prayer Hours.....	1,817.
Bible Chapters Read.....	10,845.
Souls Dealt With.....	1,890.
No. Accepting Christ.....	128.
No. Backsliders Reclaimed.....	88.

We rejoice greatly in this report even though it tells of the work of only a part of the total membership of "The Soul Winner's Club." It is particularly interesting to notice that out of the 1,890 souls dealt with, a total of 216 either received Christ as their personal Saviour or returned to the Lord from their backsliding. This means that one out of every eight persons dealt with responded in a definite way to the invitation presented.

The reports contained many interesting incidents and many questions concerning problems confronted in the work of reaching the lost for Christ. Concerning their progress in the Christian life, in living in separation from the things of the world and in spiritual victory, the reports reveal a spirit of humility and a careful, honest appraisal and for the most part indicate an above average condition.

If You Mean Business You May Join

If you are interested in the kind of program being followed by the members of the Soul Winner's Club, and if you are willing to agree to our very strict requirements for members, we will be glad to welcome you into fellowship with us in the glorious business of going after lost souls for Christ. However, we must make it clear that unless you are sincere and in earnest about winning souls, unless you are determined to live up to the requirements of the Soul Winner's Pledge, we don't want you as a member. We are not anxious to build a large membership, we are only anxious to recruit workers who will be faithful and help us in the tremendous task of reaching men and women for God, who will not fail to send in their reports monthly, and who will energetically work with the help of the Lord to bring men to Christ.

We Must Restrict Membership

We are feeling more and more that we will have to be more strict in our membership requirements and more plain in our dealings with members. We cannot afford to offer literature below actual

cost and give our valuable time to those who do not mean business, and who will not fulfil the requirements of their pledge. We do not make money on the "Soul Winner's Club." It does not even pay for itself. This being true, it is absolutely necessary that we restrict membership in the Club to those who are honest and sincere and who will keep faithfully before God their promises to Him.

In the near future we will raise the cost of membership from \$1.00 to \$1.50 each, but even this will not cover the actual expenses involved.

Join Now Before Price Goes Up!

Because we want to be honest with everyone, and because we want all to have an equal opportunity, we are going to continue to offer membership in the "Soul Winner's Club," together with the big Soul Winner's Pack (a regular \$2.00 value), and all of the privileges that our members enjoy for \$1.00. This offer will be continued for a limited time only, and it is restricted to those who are definitely in earnest. If you are not going to live up to the requirements of the Pledge, please do not apply for membership.

The Soul Winner's Pack

This pack consists of:

The Soul Winner's Fire by John R. Rice (127 pages).

Practical Notes On Soul Winning, (special instructions for dealing with different cases).

25 copies What Must I Do To Be Saved, by John R. Rice.

10 copies of the tract, God's Simple Plan Of Salvation by Rev. Ford Porter.

2 copies of the tract, Safety, Certainty, and Enjoyment by George Cutting.

One each of Dr. Rice's booklets: Can a Saved Person Ever Be Lost?

Hell—What the Bible Says About It.

All Have Sinned.

A Good Man Lost and a Bad Man Saved.

Religious But Lost.

The Backslider.

Petting and the Scarlet Sin.

The Unequal Yoke.

Bible Facts About Heaven.

How To Join!

Clip or copy the Soul Winner's Pledge and application form at the bottom of this article, sign the pledge, carefully print your name and address, attach \$1.00, enclose in an envelope and mail to the Soul Winner's Club. The package of literature and reports will be sent you right away.

THE SOUL WINNER'S CLUB
145 N. Hale Street, Wheaton, Ill.

The Soul Winner's Pledge

"With God's help, I will earnestly endeavor to be a real soul winner from this day forth. I promise the Lord to read my Bible daily, to live a life of separation from the things of the world, to spend at least one-half hour daily in prayer, to regularly and prayerfully deal with needy souls in an attempt to lead them to Christ and into a victorious Christian life, and to make regular monthly reports to the directors of the club on the forms provided for this purpose.

(Signed).....

"I will pay my vows unto the Lord in the presence of all his people."—Psa. 116:14.

Enclosed please find \$..... for the Soul Winner's Pack and Enrollment in the Soul Winner's Club.

Name.....

Address.....

"... he that winneth souls is wise."—Prov. 11:30.

Free with 2 Subs.

(Continued from page five)

I enjoyed it very much. I am sending my subscription today..." Do you see how hungry-hearted people are for the messages in *The Sword of the Lord*?

A minister, Rev. Ernest H. Murphy, of Sylacauga, Alabama, writes to tell how quickly he subscribed when he saw one copy of *The Sword of the Lord* in a chiropractor's office. Brother Murphy says:

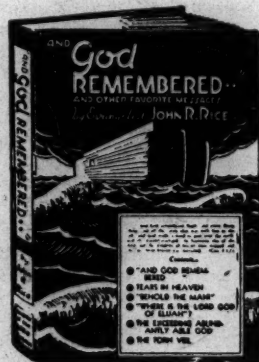
"Sometime ago I was in Dr. Jackson's chiropractor office, and he was out. I happened to find a paper entitled *The Sword of the Lord* and began reading one of those soul-stirring messages, I believe preached by Dr. H. A. Ironside. The sermon was on the rich man and Lazarus. Well, I didn't know there was such a paper printed. The Doctor came in before I got half of that sermon read, but I quickly gave him \$1.00 for a year's subscription. Now I can hardly wait from one copy until the next one comes..."

These are only samples of our mail. But they show the deep hunger of heart that people have for the message of *The Sword of the Lord*. I believe that nothing you could do would be as likely to bring profound spiritual blessing to preachers and Christian

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By Evangelist John R. Rice



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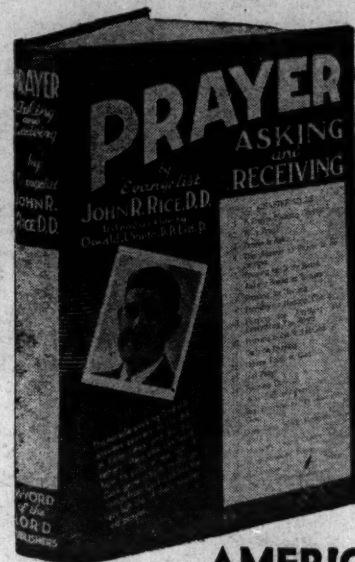
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